

New Strawn Notes

August/September 2018

WATER WATCH DECLARED

For All Consumers of Burlington Water, including New Strawn Water Customers.

The City of Burlington has declared a Water Watch, at the direction of the Kansas Water Office and the Cottonwood and Neosho River Water Assurance District No. 3 board. While the watch was elevated to a Drought Water Emergency, STAGE 3, earlier this week the status reverted to a Water Watch. The designations were imposed largely because the lake levels at the three reservoirs in the WAD No. 3 – John Redmond, Marion and Council Grove – are below the top of their respective conservation pools.

Essentially, a Drought Water Emergency would require mandatory water conservation. However, a Water Watch is more of an awareness seeking voluntary water conservation.

The City of Burlington issued the following information regarding the Water Watch:

In accordance with Ordinance 536, Section 6, Voluntary Conservation Measures, The Mayor of City of Burlington hereby declares City of Burlington and all its water consumers, including Rural Water Districts 2 and 3, and the Cities of Gridley, LeRoy and New Strawn to be under a WATER WATCH.

Mayor Stan Luke hereby calls on all water consumers to employ voluntary water conservation measures to limit or eliminate non-essential water uses, including, but not limited to, limitation on the following uses:

- (a) Sprinkling of water on lawns, shrubs or trees, including golf courses.*
- (b) Washing of automobiles.*
- (c) Use of water in swimming pools, fountains and evaporative air conditioning systems.*
- (d) Waste of water.*

THIS WATER WATCH IS IN EFFECT UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

Asphalt work planned soon

Killough Construction is expected to be in town the next week or two to complete the 2018 asphalt street project. Work will include an overlay of the City Hall parking lot and adding 4 inches of asphalt to the community building parking lot, which is currently gravel.

The project involves approximately 1,708 tons of asphalt.

Streets involved in the project include: 1½" asphalt overlay to Third Street – Lake Road to Cherokee, Huron Circle at Cheyenne St., Choctaw Street – Arrowhead Drive to Mohawk, Osage

– Neosho to First Terrace (all streets include edge milling); 4" asphalt patch – Payne and Sorg streets.

Mike Schmidt Excavating will remove old asphalt and prepare the surface for the community building parking lot.

City employees will attempt to give advance notice to residents living along these streets, once the work date is known.

AFTER NOTIFICATION, PLEASE DO NOT PARK ALONG THESE STREETS. THANK YOU.

New city clerk

Mayor Mark A. Petterson appointed Joni Hernandez as the new city clerk at the June 14 regular council meeting. Joni has prior experience in payroll and bookkeeping. She and her husband, Leonard, were born and raised in Southwest Kansas. He is the CEO for Coffey Health System. They moved to New Strawn in the fall of 2015 and are happy to be part of the community. They have one son who recently graduated from Washburn Law School and now resides in Kansas City.

OK Kids event

Save the Date: Sept. 7-9! OK Kids camping reservations available by going to <http://www.okkidscc.com/>. Their Facebook page is – OK Kids – Coffey County.

OK Kids made a generous donation in the amount of \$1,000 to the City of New Strawn as a thank you for allowing them to use the City Lake free of charge for the past several years. The donation is to be utilized for the purchase of more fish!

Halloween Party

New Strawn Community Improvement Organization (NSCIO) will be holding its annual 'spooktacular' party on Oct. 31 at the Community Building. The fun will include a costume contest, hayrack rides, story time with the library staff, food and LOTS of candy! Admission is \$2.00 per person ages 4 and up. Be sure to bring your trick or treat bags!

Also, NSCIO is asking for donations of candy for the event. If you would like to contribute, you can drop your candy off at City Hall.

Thank you to the many volunteers and members of NSCIO who make this event possible each year and ensure it is fun-filled and exciting for the kids!

Vote Nov. 6

The general election is Tuesday, Nov. 6. New Strawn residents will vote at the Community Building. Polls will be open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

BUDGET APPROVED: Following a budget hearing at the Aug. 9 New Strawn City Council meeting, the city council approved a \$1.3 million budget for 2019 that will raise \$150,778 from New Strawn property taxes at a tax rate of 40.840 mills, which is a slight 0.192 mill increase over last year. That will amount to a \$2.21 increase for the owner of a \$100,000 home.

The owner of a \$100,000 home will pay \$469.66 for the city portion of their tax bill in 2019.

The amount of total tax levied in the city will be \$4,257 more than this year. The city's assessed valuation increased \$87,243 to \$3,691,932.

VETERANS BANNER PROJECT: Poles are still available for the Veteran Banner Program, which will allow you the opportunity to honor a veteran or someone currently active in the military while also celebrating Veterans Day. Each large banner will cost \$200 and feature your chosen military member. The banners will hang within the New Strawn City limits along Main Street for one month in conjunction with Veterans Day activities for three consecutive years. After the three-year term is completed, we will contact you to see if you would like a new banner to be hung for an additional three years or if you would like the banner returned to you. A good quality picture is required along with a short biography on your veteran. Forms are available at New Strawn City Hall. Completed forms must be returned with a tax deductible payment (checks payable to Floyd Lewis Foundation) to New Strawn City Hall, 215 N. Main St., New Strawn, KS 66839. Placement of the Banner will be chosen when application and payment are returned to New Strawn City Hall. If you have any questions about this project, contact Jeanne Haas (620) 364-5893 or Rhonda Taylor (620) 364-2463.

DUCKS UNLIMITED BANQUET: John Redmond Chapter of Ducks Unlimited Banquet fundraiser will be held Saturday, Nov. 3 at the New Strawn Community Building. Doors open and activities start at 5:30 p.m. Bring the family and enjoy games, raffles, auctions and a delicious meal!

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING

DINNER: The New Strawn Christian Church will be host of the community Thanksgiving dinner on Sunday, Nov. 11. The dinner will be held at the New Strawn Community Building at 5:30 p.m. Main dishes will be provided; however, you are welcome to bring a side-dish of veggies, salad or dessert!

This is an opportunity to 'give thanks' with friends and neighbors. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Thank you to the New Strawn Christian Church for hosting this event each year!

NEW STRAWN LIBRARY NEWS: The Coffey County Library New Strawn Branch has something for everybody! The library has a wide selection of items to check out like books, CD's, magazines and movies. If you want to watch that new release that just came out, come get it for free at the library. The New Strawn Library has activities going on throughout the month for ages 0-140!!!

Children's Programming

Yoga Storytime - Sept. 11- Oct. 16 at 10:30 a.m.

Lapsit - Every Thursday at 11:15 a.m.

Discovery Time - Look for special story times on Fridays!

Teen Programming

Middle School After School Program - Every Tuesday at 3:45 p.m.

Adult Programming

Fiber Arts (Crochet, Knitting, Sewing) Every Tuesday at 5 p.m.

Healthy You-Chair Exercising Every Wednesday at 10 a.m.

Any book club - 2nd Thursday of the Month (alternating between Burlington and New Strawn) 6:30 p.m.

Book Club - Last Thursday of every month

Chalk Painting - Sept. 25 at 6:30 p.m.

Programs to look forward to:

Grocery Bingo

OK Kids - Sept. 8

Movie on the Lawn - Sept., 25 7:30 p.m.

Edible Books Contest - Oct. 15

Pumpkin Decorating Contest - October

NSCIO Halloween Party - Oct. 31

Letters to Santa - Nov. 19-Dec. 19

Gift Wrapping - Nov. 23-Dec. 20
Pajama Storytime with Santa - December

Cookie Swap - December

Please contact the library at (620) 364-8910 with any questions or visit their website www.cclibraryks.org. Also check out their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/newstrawn/>

CITY HALL CLOSINGS

Sept. 3 - Labor Day

Nov. 12 - Veterans Day

Nov. 22 - Thanksgiving Day

Nov. 23 - Day after Thanksgiving

Dec. 25 - Christmas

Jan. 1 - New Year's Day

City Hall is open normal business hours Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to noon and 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

MEETING NOTIFICATIONS: The public is always welcome to attend all city council and city planning meetings. City council meetings are conducted in the open the second Thursday of each month.

While the public generally does not participate in meeting business, a portion of each regular monthly meeting is designated for public comments.

CITY COUNCIL & STAFF

Mark A. Petterson, Mayor

Council Members:

Rhonda Taylor

Richard Croll

Jeanne Haas

Gary Haehn

Jim Weeks

Joni Hernandez, City Clerk
Doris McBride, Assistant Clerk
Brenda Klubek, Treasurer
Ron Parkey, City Superintendent
Steven Dwight, Maintenance
Carl Ware, Zoning Administrator
Robert Williamson, Assistant

NEWSTRAWN.ORG: As a reminder, the city has a website where you can go to pay your bill online, read minutes from past council meetings, peruse city ordinances or check out upcoming community events. You can also find forms, such as new account applications, community building reservation forms and other licensing forms.